

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

INRE-00 HA-05 SSO-00 MMO-01 A-01 EB-08 TRSE-00

AID-05 AGRE-00 /058 W

-----125228 061405Z /43

P 061251Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6511

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 NDJAMENA 0952

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CD

SUBJECT: US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN CHAD

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS A THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF THE COURSES OF ACTION THE EMBASSY INTENDS TO TAKE IN CARRYING OUT THE AGREEDUPON US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN CHAD. THESE COURSES OF ACTION WILL BE GIVEN MORE MEAT AS WE DETAIL INDIVIDUAL AGENCY PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS FOR THE COMING YEAR. REGRET DELAY IN SUBMITTING THIS REPORT.

1. RESTORING CHAD'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY: THE ENTIRE QUESTION OF THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CHAD IS SO FLUID AND IS CHANGING SO RAPIDLY THAT CHARTING A FIRM COURSE FOR THE NEXT YEAR IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE. IN THE TWO MONTHS SINCE THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVE WERE DRAFTED, LIBYAN-BACKED REBELS HAVE SEIZED COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE NORTHERN HALF OF CHAD AND HAVE DEALT THE CHADIAN ARMY A SHATTERING DEFEAT. A COMPLICATE SERIES OF MULTI FACETED NEGOTIATIONS IS NOW IN PROGRESS INVOLVING CHAD, LIBYA, NIGER, SUDAN AND THE VARIOUS REBEL GROUPS. PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE OBSCURE AND HOSTILITIES MAY WELL RESUME IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IF SO, DESPITE

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ADDITIONAL FRENCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE (WHICH MIGHT CHANGE AS A RESULT OF THIS MONTH'S ELECTION), CHAD IS IN A WEAK POSITION TO DEFEND ITSELF. ACCORDINGLY, THE GOVERNMENT WITH WHICH WE MADE OUR COMMITMENT OF ASSISTANCE MAY WELL CEASE TO EXIST BEFORE WE HAVE HONORED IT.

2. THE RAPID PACE OF EVENTS HAVEFORCED US INTO A POSITION IN WHICH WE MUST EITHER MAKE GOOD ON OUR COMMITMENT TO HELP CHAD DEFEND ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, OR WE MUST MAKE OUR ABILITY TO DO SO CLEAR. AS THE EMBASSY HAS STATED ELSEWHERE, IT IS UNWISE AND UNFAIR TO DANGLE A FUTILE HOPE IN FRONT OF DESPERATE MEN. THEREFORE, WE MUST HAVE TWO ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION TO FOLLOWFROM THIS POINT FORWARD.

3. IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING SOME MEANS OF ASSISTING CHAD, AND IF THE GOVERNMENT WE ASSIST WEATHERS THE STORM, WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO CONTINUE COUNSELING THE GOVERNMENT FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH BOTH LIBYA AND THE REBELS. IN THIS CONNECTION WE ARE CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF HIGH LEVEL CORRESPONDENCE COMMENDING THE CHADIANS FOR THEIR READINESS TO NEGOTIATE. WE COULD THEN USE SUCH CORRESPONDENCE IN THE REALM OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY TO BOTH ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENT AND TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT. UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NO SIMILAR LEVERAGE ON THE OTHER PARTY TO THE DISPUTE, LIBYA. AT THE SAME TIME WE WERE PUSING THE GOVERNMENT TOWARDS NEGOTIATION, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN TO HIGH LEVEL MEMBERS THAT, WHILE WE HAVE LIVED UP TO OUR COMMITMENT, THERE WAS LITTLE ELSE WE COULD DO IN THE MILITARY
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ASSISTANCE FIELD, AND THEREFORE THEY SHOULD LOOK TO OTHERS FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY THE FRENCH. WE HAVE MADE CHAD ELIGIBLE FOR FMS SALES AND , SHOULD THE PETROLEUM SITUATION BRIGHTEN FURTHER, IT MIGHT WELL BE ABLE TO START TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE TELL THE GOVERNMENT WE CANNOT ASSIST IT IN ITS HOUR OF NEED, OUR INFLUENCE ON ITS ACTIONS WOULD BE SO REDUCED THAT WE WOULD DO WELL TO SIT BACK QUIETLY AND LET CHAD HANDLE ITS OWN AFFAIRS AS IT SEES FIT. OUR ADVICE WOULD NOT ONLY BE UNHEEDED BUT WOULD BE RESENTED. IN THIS EVENT, THE UTILITY OF OUR DAO OPERATION WOULD HAVE TO BE REASSESSED.

5. FOSTERING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
WE ARE APPROACHING THE FIRST FOUR ITEMS LISTED UNDER THIS HEADING BY RESTRUCTURING THE EMPHASIS AND PRIORITIES OF OUR PRESENT PROGRAMS AND PLANS. IN GENERAL , OUR ORDER OF PRIORITY IN MAJOR PROGRAMS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) PROGRAMS TO BE ACCELERATED AND INCREASED:

BOL POLDERS
SEED MULTIPLICATION
CROP PROTECTION AND MARKETING

(B) NEW PROGRAMS TO BE INCLUDED:

ROAD MAINTENANCE
ROAD CONSTRUCTION

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BONGOR DIKES

(C) PROGRAMS TO BE CONTINUED AND EXPANDED IF
APPROPRIATE:

LIVESTOCK

AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(D) PROGRAMS TO BE CONTINUED BUT NOT EXPANDED:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
RURAL HEALTH PLANNING

(E) EXISTING PROGRAMS TO BE FINISHED BUT NO NEW
COMMITMENTS ARE TO BE MADE TO THE LAKE CHAD BASIN
COMMISSION.

TMI GOVERNMENT OF CHAD WILL APPLAUD A RESTRUCTURING OF
OUR PROGRAMS ON THIS BASIS AS IT HAS LONG COMPLAINED THAT

OUR EMPHASIS HAS BEEN MISPLACED. THE GREATEST SINGLE PROBLEM WE WILL HAVE IS BEING SURE THAT THESE PRIORITIES ARE RECOGNIZED AND ADHERED TO IN WASHINGTON. FOR INSTANCE, THE CHAD SDP STRATEGY CONTAINED IN STATE 018248 DOES NOT
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CONFORM TO THE PRIORITIES SET FORTH IN OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, ALTHOUGH IT WAS DRAFTED IN WASHINGTON AT THE SAME TIME. THE EMBASSY WILL BE ADDRESSING ITSELF STRONGLY TO THESE PRIORITIES IN ALL FORTHCOMING AID PLANNING EXERCISES AND WILL REQUEST DIRECT SUPPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT IN THIS REGARD.

6. UNLESS THERE IS A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT, WE WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM IN MAINTAINING A FAVORABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE; AND ALTHOUGH WE WILL ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE ON BEHALF OF ANY NEW AMERICAN INVESTORS, NO SPECIFIC NEW APPROACHES ON OUR PART ARE REQUIRED TO ASSURE THIS FAVORABLE CLIMATE.

7. WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN ACTION TO EXPAND PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE. THE PEACE CORPS IS INCREASING ITS VOLUNTEER STRENGTH FROM A CURRENT LEVEL OF 80 TO 115 NEXT SUMMER. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE NEW ARRIVALS WILL BE ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. THESE FIELDS INVOLVED 11 PCV'S IN FY 77; 22 IN FY 78; AND WILL INVOLVE ABOUT 50 IN FY 79. IN ADDITION TO THESE INCREASES, THE COORDINATION OF PEACE CORPS AND AID'S EFFORTS IS BEING AUGMENTED, SPECIFICALLY IN THE FIELDS OF WELL DIGGING, REFORESTATION, AND AGRICULTURE PROJECTS.

8. THERE IS CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EMBASSY AND THE U.S. COMPANY NOW ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION. BOTH PARTIES ARE AGREED THAT THIS COOPERATION IS BEST CARRIED OUT BY DISCRETE PERSONAL CONTACTS AND NOT BE BLATANT PUBLIC OVER-IDENTIFICATION. THIS COOPERATION WILL BE CONTINUED.

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9. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE ITS MODEST EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE U.S. INVESTMENT IN CHAD BY DIRECT CONTACTS WITH VISITORS, BY A CONSTANT ALERTNESS FOR TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, AND BY VISITING AMERICAN COMPANIES IN THE U.S. WHILE OFFICERS ARE ON LEAVE. HOWEVER, IT MUST BE NOTED IN CONNECTION WITH

U.S. INVESTMENT THAT WHILE THE OPPORTUNITIES AT THIS MOMENT
ARE SMALL, A SIGNIFICANT PETROLEUM STRIKE, WHICH SEEMS
HIGHLY POSSIBLE, WILL DRASTICALLY ALTER THE SITUATION.
THEREFORE, OUR ENCOURAGEMENT MUST BE IN THE NATURE OF
CONSIDERING FUTURE POSSIBILITIES RATHER THAN EXPLOITING
EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES. ONE EXISTING OPPORTUNITY THAT NEEDS,
AND WILL RECEIVE, MORE ATTENTION IS THE INVOLVEMENT OF
AMERICAN COMPANIES IN OUR AID PROGRAMS.BRADFORD

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